

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 CARACA 05333 092214Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 A-01 OPR-02 SS-15 CPR-02 USSS-00
SY-05 PA-01 SAB-02 SP-02 INR-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00
NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 /055 W
-----011461 092221Z /63

O 092145Z JUN 78

FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2618

INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MEXICO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PANAMA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L CARACAS 5333

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (CARTER, JIMMY)

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT'S VISIT TO PANAMA: MULTILATERAL
MEETINGS

REF: STATE 146222

1. PRESIDENT PEREZ LEFT THIS MORNING FOR ONE OF HIS WEEKEND FORAYS INTO THE COUNTRYSIDE. I HAVE NOT, THEREFORE, BEEN ABLE TO TALK TO HIM DIRECTLY RE REFTEL. IN HIS LONG CONSERVATION WITH ME YESTERDAY (UNE 8) PRESIDENT PEREZ INDICATED HE THOUGHT A MULTILATERAL MEETING OF THE PRESIDENTS WOULD BE VERY IMPORTANT SINCE THERE WERE "A LOT OF THINGS" THE PRESIDENTS WOULD LIKE TO SPEAK TO PRESIDENT CARTER ABOUT.

2. I DID PASS TODAY TO MINISTER OF THE PRESIDENCY CARMELO LAURIA INFORMATION IN REFTEL CONCERNING THE TENTATIVE SCHEDULE OF THE MEETINGS AND THE GENERAL TOPICS (PARA 6). LAURIA SAID HE WOULD TRY TO GET THIS INFORMATION TO PRESIDENT PEREZ OVER THE WEEKEND.

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3. LAURIA ALSO SAID, HOWEVER, THAT IN PRINCIPLE THE LIST OF TOPICS SEEMS LOGICAL AND REASONABLE. LAURIA WENT ON TO SAY THAT SINCE THIS GROUP OF PRESIDENTS TENDED TO BE "UNPREDICTABLE," HE WOULD NOT THINK ANY EFFORT TO MANAGE THE MEETINGS WOULD BE VERY MEANINGFUL--OR PARTICULARLY ADHERED TO BY THE PRINCIPALS. LAURIA INDICATED

THAT THE PROPOSED TIMING OF THE TWO MEETINGS WAS QUITE SATISFACTORY, AND GIVEN PRESIDENT PEREZ' OWN COMMENTS TO ME YESTERDAY (PARA 1 ABOVE), IT CAN BE ASSUMED THAT THEY ACCEPT THAT SCHEDULE.

4. PRESIDENT PEREZ SAID TO ME PESTERDAY THAT HE AND MANLEY WANTED TO SPEAK TO PRESIDENT CARTER ABOUT AFRICA, ABOUT WHICH THEY WERE GREATLY WORRIED. PEREZ SAID HE ALSO WAS WORRIED ABOUT JAMAICA AND WOULD LIKE TO MENTION TO PRESIDENT CARTER HIS CONCERNS IN THIS REGARD.

5. OTHER MATTERS WHICH ARE IN THE FRONT OF PEREZ' MIND AND WHICH HE THEREFORE IS VERY LIKELY TO BRING UP IN ONE WAY OR ANOTHER AREAC (A) THE DR; (B) NICARAGUA; AND (C) BELIZE, ESPECIALLY SINCE HE WILL BE SEEING ROWLANDS IN PANAMA ON THIS SUBJECT:. AS THE DEPARTMENT KNOWS, PEREZ IS ALSO DEEPLY CONCERNED ABOUT THE PANAMA SITUATION (CARACAS 5269). PEREZ IS UNLIKELY TO RAID THIS IN A MULTILATERAL MEETING, HOWEVER, ALTHOUGH HE MAY VERY WELL WISH TO SAY SOMETHING PRIVATELY TO PRESIDENT CARTER.
VAKY

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